

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121, a complete listing of all claims in the application, and their status, is set forth below. The text of each pending claim is also provided. The claims in this listing are deemed to replace all prior claims in the application. For any amendments, added matter is underlined and deleted matter is ~~stricken through~~ or [[double bracketed]], relative to the immediate prior version.

1. (Currently Amended) A retractable barrier system comprising a support member, a spool supported for rotation by the support member, a spring arranged to provide a rotary biasing load to the spool, and a skirt, the spring being located beneath the skirt and the skirt being arranged to deflect water away from the spring [[water]] which would otherwise impinge on the spring, wherein the skirt is carried by and formed integrally with the spool.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising a cover forming, with the skirt, a closed compartment within which the spring is housed.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 5, wherein the cover is secured to the skirt by ~~at least one of~~ a snap-fit coupling, an adhesive, and a screw-threaded coupling.
7. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising a fixed spindle supported by the support member and upon which the spool is mounted for rotation.
8. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 7, wherein the spring includes a first end part anchored to the spindle or the support member and a second end part arranged to drive the spool.
9. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the spring is provided with a water-resistant or corrosion-resistant coating.
10. (Original) A system according to Claim 9, wherein the coating comprises a PTFE layer.
11. (Canceled).
12. (Canceled)
13. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein the integrally formed skirt and spool deflect drain water radially outwardly, around and past the spring